



DENALI COMMISSION

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July 1, 2003

Dear Fellow Alaskans:

Re: Denali Commission Investment Policy Comment Period

Enclosed is the Denali Commission Investment Policy drafted for your review and comment. This policy is necessary to guide the process of project selection and prudent investment of federal monies which has been underway at the Denali Commission since its inception. To provide adequate time for meaningful review and comment by you, this draft policy will continue to serve as a guide for Denali Commission Staff and Partner actions until reviewed for potential revision by the full Commission in September.

The Investment Policy is intended to deliver the greatest possible benefit to the greatest number of Alaskans, without penalizing the smallest communities for circumstances beyond their control. It provides guidance for designers to tailor facilities based on six primary investment indicators: size of community and population trends, imminent environmental threats, proximity/access to existing services and/or facilities, per capita investment benchmarks, unit construction cost, and economic potential. These indicators provide an investment framework which will guide selection and appropriate funding of sustainable projects by the Denali Commission and its program partners. The policy also provides guidelines for consideration of appropriate alternatives where investment in standard facilities is not warranted. Alternatives include smaller, modular or relocatable facilities and/or limited services as appropriate.

I urge you to review the policy and consider its effects, offer suggestions and help us "do the right thing, in the right way". Written comments should be received at the Denali Commission by August 15, 2003. We believe that none of us is as smart as all of us working together. So, thank you in advance for your thoughtful suggestions to enhance this Investment Policy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jeff Staser", written over a horizontal line.

Jeff Staser
Federal Co-Chairman